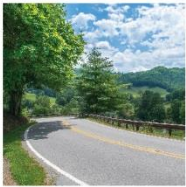




## **NORTH CAROLINA**

Department of Transportation



# **Public Transportation Division: Joint Transportation Legislative Oversight Committee – ConCPT Grants Update**

January 11, 2018

Debbie Collins

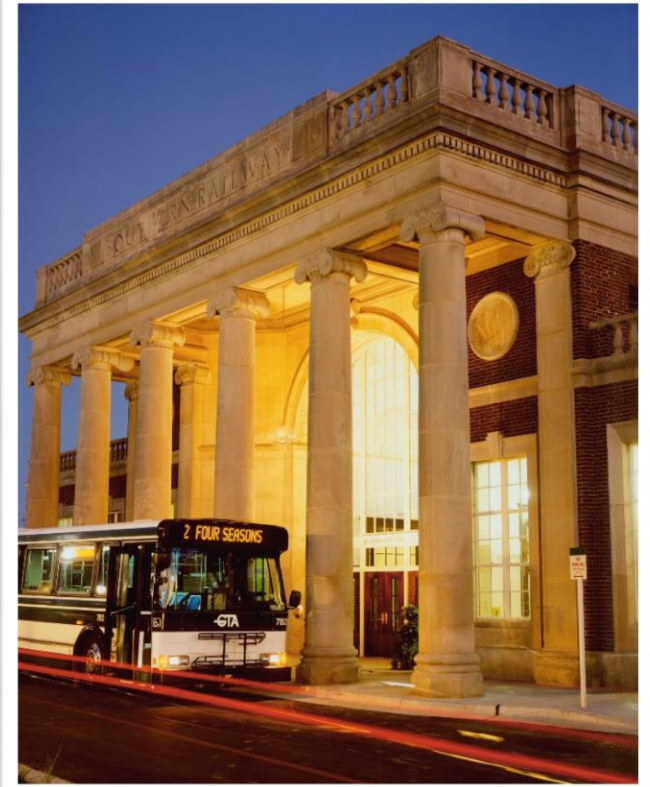
# Agenda

1. **Summary of S.L. 2017-57 Section 34.18A**
2. **Established criteria**
3. **Grants awarded to date**
4. **Highlights of grants awarded**
5. **Identified strengths and weaknesses**

## Goal

- Encourage public transportation systems to combine with other transit systems, or to cooperate with other systems in developing new routes and services
- Maximize resources, gain efficiencies, and increase access to public transportation for North Carolina's citizens

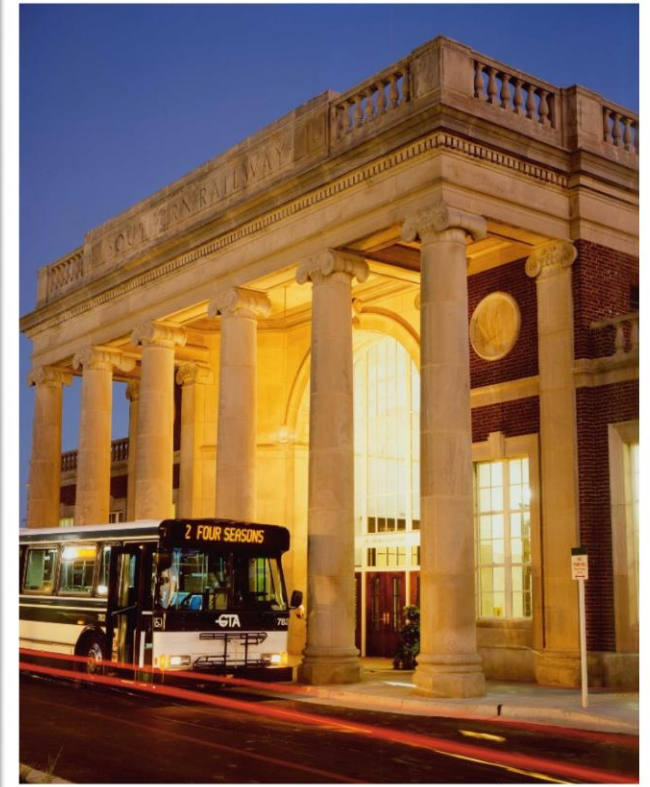
## Elements of the Legislation



## Timeline

- Criteria for ConCPT grants applications must be established and published on the Department website by September 1, 2017
- Report due annually to the Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee by December 1, identifying:
  - each public transportation system provided funding under this subsection,
  - the amount of funds disbursed to each public transportation system, and
  - the purpose or purposes for which each public transportation system has used the funds.

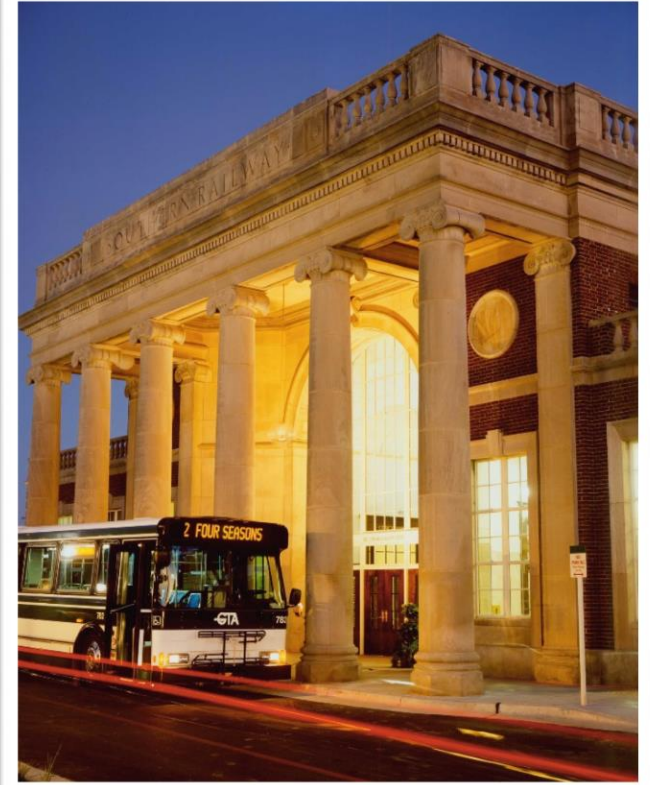
## Elements of the Legislation



## Purpose

- Encourage transit systems to consolidate into single systems, to reduce the number of Public Transportation Division grantees while expanding services in North Carolina's communities
- Encourage coordination between systems for long-distance trips spanning multiple transit system service areas to provide access to major medical destinations, nearby regional and intercity transportation facilities, and education facilities

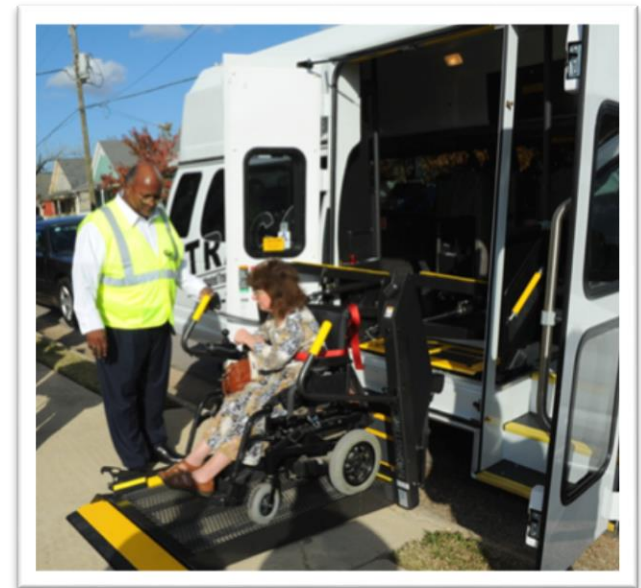
## Elements of the Legislation



# NCDOT's Criteria Established for ConCPT Grant

## Other Requirements

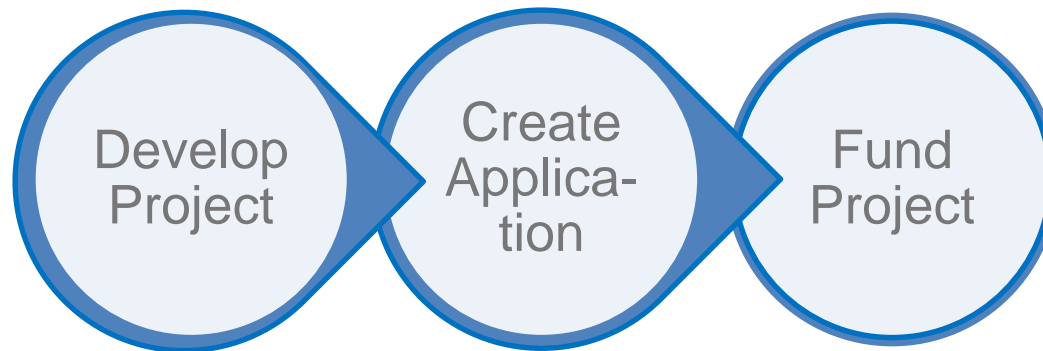
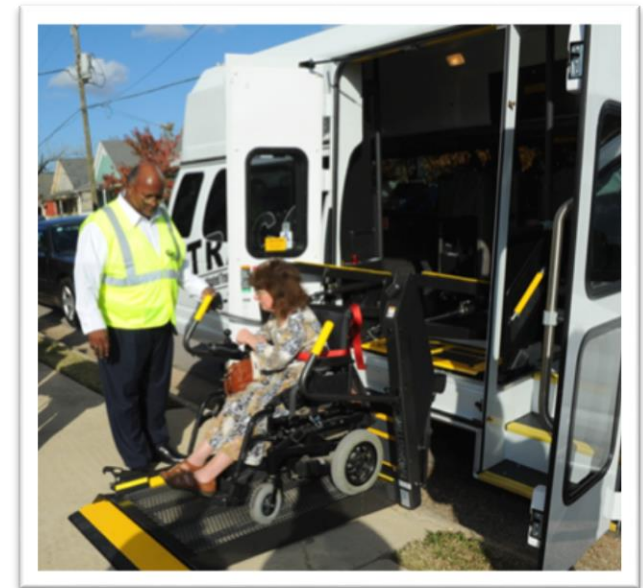
- \$200,000 annual cap per transit system, per legislation
- Eligible applicants: NCDOT sub-recipients of 5311 (Rural Formula) Funds or 5307 (Urban Formula) Funds
- Divided the money in half in the first stage of implementation
  - \$750,000 for consolidation
  - \$750,000 for coordination



# NCDOT's Criteria Established for ConCPT Grant

## Application Process

- Application created after approval of the plan
- Application input received from the rural Transit Advisory Grantee Group
- Rolling applications



# Elements of the Funding

## Consolidation

- Maximum of \$200,000 per system – the actual amount requested in each plan is adjusted according to the amount of local money generated by the transit system
- Required match of at least 50% non-state money
- Eligible expenses: capital purchases, operating assistance, maintenance, and administrative support



# Elements of the Funding

## Coordination

- Establish formal relationships on long-distance routes
- Required match of at least 50% non-state money
- Eligible expenses: operating assistance billed at an approved rate
- Requires participation of a minimum of three transportation systems



# Applications and Awards to Date

## Consolidation

- 1 application for Wilson City/Wilson County - \$350,000

## Coordination

- 3 applications; 2 funded
  - Clay County Ridge Runner (coordination with Swain and Macon counties) - \$20,000
  - Carteret County Downeast Express (coordination with Onslow, Duplin, Goldsboro-Wayne, and Johnston counties) - \$75,000



# Applications and Awards to Date

## Work with other projects continues

### Consolidation

- Continue to support the Hyde/Tyrrell consolidation
- 2 other consolidation studies underway



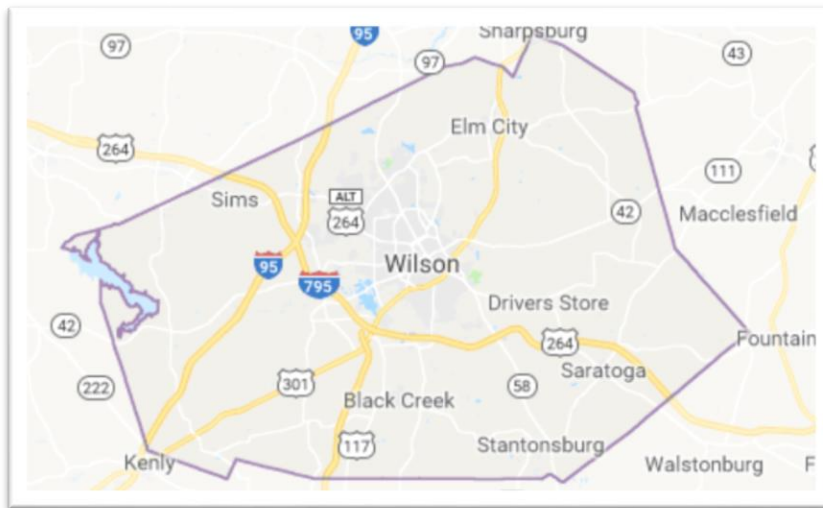
### Coordination

- Rutherford traveling east and west
- Mitchell area
- Person/Caswell/Rockingham
- Vance
- Sandhills
- Piedmont area



# Consolidation

Wilson City/Wilson County



## Wilson City and Wilson County

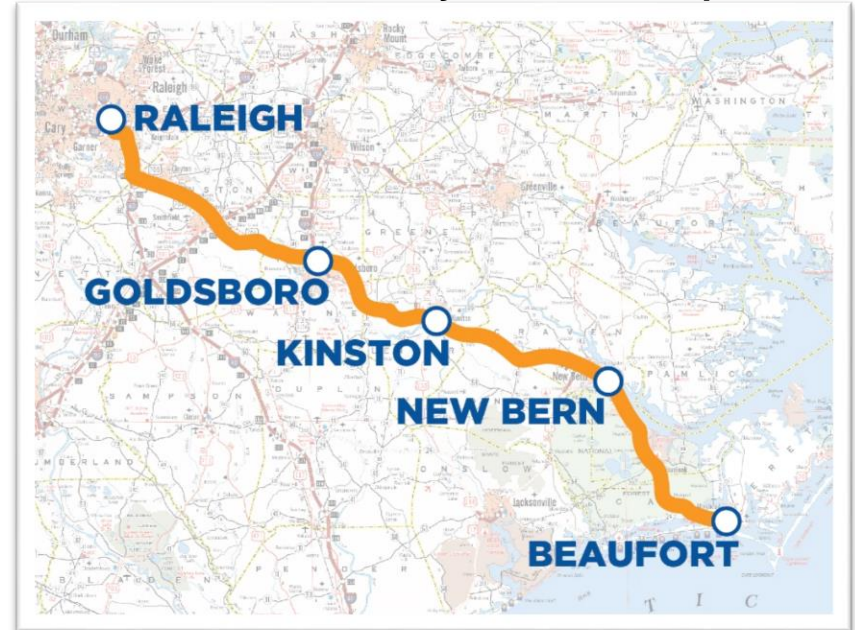
- Operated as separate urban and rural agencies since 1980s
- Consolidating the two organizations, with the City of Wilson taking the lead
- \$350,000

# Coordination

## Carteret County Downeast Express

- 5-day-a-week service from Beaufort to the Triangle
- Start-up partners: Carteret, Duplin, Goldsboro-Wayne, Johnston and Onslow Counties
- 6-month budget = \$75,000
- Service will expand to multiple trips per day

### Carteret County Downeast Express



#### **Stops:**

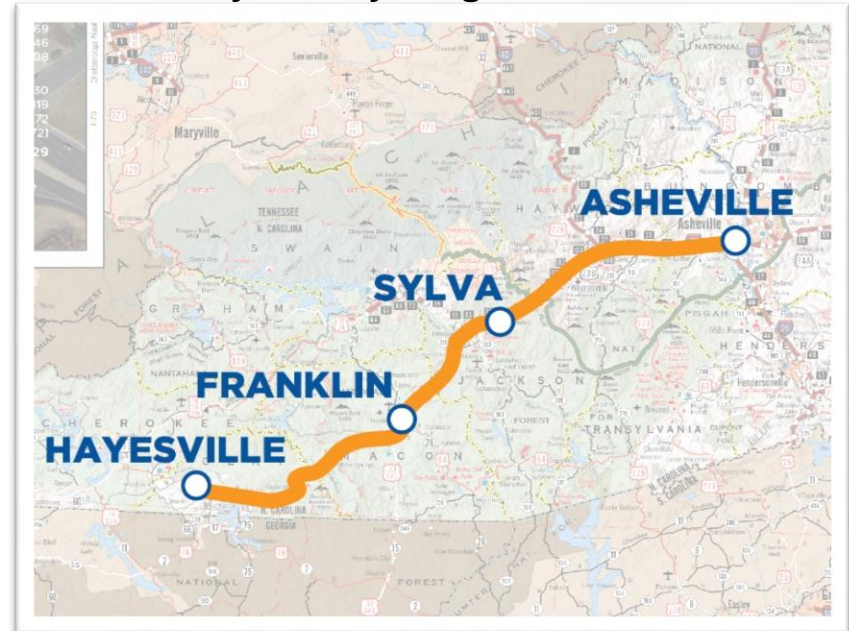
- Beaufort
- New Bern Mall at 17 Business (Craven County)
- Lenoir Community College (Onslow County)
- Goldsboro Transit Center (Goldsboro-Wayne and Duplin County)
- Johnston County Transit Office (Smithfield)
- Triangle destinations

# Coordination

## Clay County Ridge Runner

- 5-day-a-week service from Hayesville to Asheville
- Start-up partners: Clay, Macon and Swain counties
- 6-month budget = \$20,000
- Service will expand to multiple trips per day

### Clay County Ridge Runner



#### **Stops:**

- Hayesville
- Franklin
- Sylva
- Asheville

# Strengths



- Generates excitement
- Allows NCDOT to partner in building a network for access to jobs, education and medical facilities
- Creates additional service opportunities in each community
- Creates new partnerships
- Considers the transportation network as a whole
- Helps implement one of Public Transportation Division's Strategic Plan goals: Build a connected statewide network

# Opportunities

- Takes time to build the partnerships:
  - Short time frame for implementation
  - Involves engagement at all levels of the organization – finance directors, boards, etc.
- Transit systems must rethink:
  - Delivery of service model
  - Funding/budgeting
  - Ownership of customers leading to a fear of risk



# Upcoming Actions

- Regional training on budgeting and billing
- Provide leadership and technical assistance to identified potential partners
- Consider including non sub-recipients, partnered for rural access



# Save the Date

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919-707-4684



**PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION**

# **STATEWIDE STRATEGIC PLAN SUMMIT**

***SAVE THE DATE***

March 21, 2018 | 1-4 p.m.  
Raleigh Convention Center  
500 S Salisbury Street  
Raleigh, NC 27601



*Connecting North Carolinians to Opportunities*